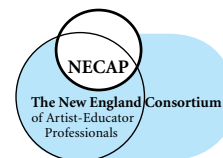




Register now for the 6th Annual
Widening the Circle NECAP Conference



Joining Hands

Early Childhood and the Arts

A New England-wide conference for teaching artists and early childhood educators working with children age 3 to Grade 3
Wednesday, June 27, 2007 • 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. • Wells Elementary School, Wells, Maine

THE ARTS provide a critical pathway to learning and literacy. Teaching artists and early-childhood educators are natural partners and guides along this path. Join us to:

- ☞ Discover what brain research tells us about how children learn.
- ☞ Explore the key characteristics of artist partnerships with schools and other sites.
- ☞ Discover how active learning supports the reading process.
- ☞ Focus on specific arts disciplines in workshops led by experienced teaching artists and educators.
- ☞ Network with other teaching artists and early childhood educators.

ABOUT OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:



Miriam Flaherty Willis is senior director of the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts Education Program. Wolf Trap's Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts places performing artists in classroom residencies and has been replicated in 15 regions throughout the country. Willis co-chaired the national Task Force on Children's Learning and the Arts, which produced the report "Young Children and the Arts: Making Creative Connections."

Dr. Dee Hansen is Chair of Graduate Music Education at the Hartt School of Music in Hartford, Connecticut. She previously served as the fine arts consultant for the Kansas State Department of Education, and has presented trainings for The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and MENC, the National Association for Music Education, which published her books, *The Handbook for Music Supervisors* and *The Music and Literacy Connection*.



THE CHILDREN'S ART CENTRE OF UNITED SOUTH END SETTLEMENTS

CONFERENCE AGENDA

(Subject to Change)

9:00 a.m. Registration, networking, morning refreshments

10 a.m. Welcome, conference overview, morning song

10:10 a.m. Making Creative Connections: Meaningful Partnerships for Teaching Artists and Early Educators • Miriam Flaherty Willis: The arts in early childhood settings must connect first to the child. This simple concept challenges how teaching artists work in the preschool environment, and how educators engage children in quality arts experiences. We need a common language to guide our planning, support our implementation and assess our effectiveness.

11 a.m. A Mind Full of the Arts: What Brain Research Tells Us about How Children Learn • Dr. Dee Hansen: This session will introduce you to the functions of the brain and how the arts affect and engage children in the learning process. We will explore developmental stages of learning and how this knowledge informs us as artists and teachers.

11:45 a.m. Arts Play and Learning: An Interactive Session • Dr. Dee Hansen: Step into the shoes of a child, experimenting with sounds, movement, stories, and visual art and celebrating child play through focused and purposeful teaching.

12:30 p.m. Lunch and "Show and Tell" networking session: Share your brochures, materials, model programs and ideas with colleagues from around New England.

1:45 p.m. Hands-on Workshops

3:30 p.m. Closing Session

4 p.m. Enjoy the beautiful coast of Maine!



WORKSHOPS WILL INCLUDE:

Books Connect: Children's Literature, Learning and the Performing Arts (Willis)

Connect performing arts experiences to children's literature, practice productive partnering, and explore a variety of ways to guide children's learning in the arts while supporting educational and developmental priorities.

The Arts and Early Learning in Inclusive Settings

Leaders from the VSA arts of New England affiliates will address the needs of all children, including those with diverse learning styles and developmental concerns, using *Start with the Arts*, a comprehensive resource for parents, teachers, and care providers.

The Art of Assessing Young Children (Hansen)

How do we know that our children are benefiting from arts-in-education programs? Examine an initiative that assesses children for arts learning and social and behavioral growth, and see how school readiness programs can incorporate the arts.

Additional workshops

will focus on multicultural programming and discipline-specific work in movement, theater, music and visual arts. Workshop details, directions, and additional information can be accessed on the NECAP website: www.artisteducators.org/.



REGISTRATION

Registration fee of \$50 includes morning refreshments and lunch. Early registration is appreciated. Your registration by June 14 will ensure workshop space and food for all participants. Complete the registration form (attached, or available online at www.artisteducators.org) and mail it with your check made out to AANNH to Frumie Selchen, NECAP, HC64 Box 223, Wonalancet NH 03897. Scholarships may be available from some state arts agencies. Graduate credit may be available from Lesley University's Creative Arts in Learning Division. For more information, call 603-323-7302 or e-mail necap@aannh.org.



LODGING

A block of rooms is being held until May 31 at the Hampton Inn & Suites Wells/Ogunquit, 900 Post Road, Wells, Maine 04090, for both June 26 and June 27 at the special rate of \$109 plus tax. Rate includes breakfast, indoor pool and jacuzzi, fitness center, complimentary van shuttle to the conference site, and a manager's reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Call 207-646-0555 to make reservations, and be sure to identify yourself as part of the NECAP Widening the Circle conference.

The Wells Elementary School is located at 276 Sanford Rd., Wells, Maine 04090.  To learn more about the Maine coast, visit www.wellschamber.org/ and www.ogunquit.org/.

MUSIC PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE AND BOTTOM PHOTO ON FIRST PAGE BY GEOFF FORRESTER; COURTESY OF CONCORD (NH) COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL

This conference is presented by NECAP (the New England Consortium of Artist-Educator Professionals) in collaboration with the New England State Arts Agencies, the Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire, the Wells Elementary School, and the Lesley University Creative Arts in Learning Division. NECAP is dedicated to the support and development of teaching artists. NECAP works to advance the field of the artist-educator, create a regional network, and provide quality professional development. To join the NECAP list-serv, e-mail necap-on@mail-list.com.



Joining Hands: Early Childhood & the Arts

Registration Form

Widening the Circle Conference
Wednesday, June 27, 2007
Wells Elementary School, Wells, Maine

Name _____

Title / Position _____

Organization / School _____

Home Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone (Day) _____ (Eve.) _____

Email Address _____

Website _____

I am a(n): ☐ Artist Educator *please specify discipline & grade(s):* _____
☐ Early Childhood Educator
☐ School-based Educator *please specify discipline and grade(s):* _____
☐ Community-based Educator *please specify discipline and site:* _____
☐ Staff member or Educator in an Arts Education Organization
☐ Student *please specify:* _____
☐ Other *please specify:* _____

I work primarily in: ☐ pre-K ☐ K-3 ☐ 4-6 ☐ 7-12 ☐ out of school
☐ other: _____

Number of years working as/with an Artist-Educator:

☐ One year or less ☐ 2-5 years ☐ 5-10 years ☐ 10 years +

I learned about this conference from: ☐ friend/colleague ☐ teacher
☐ email from: _____
☐ press release (please specify): _____

Please add me to your e-group mailing lists for: ☐ NECAP
☐ State Council on the Arts ☐ Extending the Dance Map project

I am interested in this conference because: _____

I am planning to bring resource/exhibit materials: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Early registration is appreciated.

Confirmation with directions and workshop details will be emailed before the conference. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you prefer that your confirmation be mailed. Registration fees are not refundable.

Enclosed is: ☐ for registration (Cost is \$50 for registration/per person)

Make checks payable to AANNH

Mail to: Frumie Selchen, Arts Alliance of Northern NH, HC64 Box 223, Wonalancet NH 03897

For more information, call 323-7302 or e-mail necap@aannh.org. TTY/TDD 800-735-2964.

Dietary Restrictions/Access Needs

If you have a dietary restriction or have access needs, please check here and submit your registration no later than June 10 so that we will have sufficient time to fulfill your request. ☐ I require the following accommodation(s): _____

Access Needs (check if applicable)



Questions? _____

Lodging Information:

A block of rooms is being held until May 31 at the Hampton Inn & Suites Wells/Ogunquit, 900 Post Road, Wells, Maine USA 04090, for both June 26 and June 27.

Guests may choose either a King-size bed or two queen-sized beds at the special rate of \$109 plus tax.

Included in this rate are complimentary breakfast, indoor pool and jacuzzi, fitness center, complimentary van shuttle to the conference site and local restaurants and attractions, and a complimentary manager's reception from 5 to 7 p.m.

You must make your own reservations directly with the inn. Call 207-646-0555 and be sure to identify yourself as part of the NECAP Widening the Circle conference.

☐ Yes, I'll be staying at the Hampton Inn & Suites on ☐ June 26 ☐ June 27

☐ No, I won't be staying overnight.